Minutes of the BICC General Membership Meeting held on Monday, April 3, 1972, at Vail Hall, N.J. Bell Telephone Co., 540 Broad Street, Memark, Maw Jersey.

The way was to

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Roland E. Stewart - Exec. Director Joseph E. Partenheimer Jules Lozovick - Co-Chairman Richard Proctor - Co-Chairman Lozoph Baseker

Joseph Deneham Evelyn Brown George Wibecan Dennis McCarthy Horace Funt

Horace Funt John Clarkson Ken Donaldson Harilyn Askin C.R. O Connor Jo Anne Polite AVa Caldwell James Benjanin David Woorman

Bavid Moorman
Eobert T. Neff
Marlene Rinaldi
Joseph Rinaldi
Sylvester Hart, Jr.
Louise Epperson
Eugene Campbell
Lealie Rupprecht

Leslie Rupprecht G. Van Burk Edwin Bess Floyd Bishop Alms Perry Helen Mitchell Adres Bush

Y. Frederick Laurence Hamn

Mormon Buchanan Jack Frauskoff * Gustav Heningburg

Joseph P. Earley Dave Barrett John Corvase Connie Woodruff Jane Cassedy Frank Askin Victor Harmond BOCC

Vestern Electric-Newark 'Hinority Executive Matchmakers Englohard Industries

Prudential Insurance Co. Chamber of Commerce-Newark NET! Mutual Benefit Life Co. Nutual Benefit Life Co.

American Jewish Conyress Entgors New Arb Student Pederation New Ark Student Pederation

C.I.R.S. U.S. Sawings Bank

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Fewark Public Library
F.J. State Famloyment Service
Bambergero-Fewar!
Hew Ark Student Federation
Velface "ights Organization
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'Melface Exident Federation
Hew Ark Student Federation

Sears - Newark
Soard of Education - Newark
Consultant Firm
You Ark Student Federation

Urban Coalition Congoleum Industries, Inc. United Community Corn. Board of Edusation - Newerk

N.J. Bell Telephone Co. Rutzers

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 P.". by Co-Chairman Pichard Proctor with self introduction by all present. First on the agonda were committee reports.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

We comball reporting for the committee, informed the membershin that his comattace cryping to found a progrem similar to the Norld of Manafacturing & Construction, called the World of Finance. The BICC committee net with needle from the HL. Department of Takestin ow has are studying a promosal for this World of Finance project and hospitally an amenor will be given to the committee by May 21, 1972. On another proposal, the long the street to the committee Superintendent of New York Authority to tie in transportation to near with Hought area schools.

TASK FORCE COMMITTEE:

Mr. Logowick reported that the Task Force's main objective is to visit with BTCC Companies and gather employment data from them to held them with their Affirmative Action Programs. There were no :Expalations nade where bits was a nove against white students. No one said they would be opposed to any other group wanting to place their flag where their students are. I think that overybody should have howologies of their reconcultural hartnage. The resolution itemis frace on estipulation as far as replacing of the American flag, or boring the American flag, or doing many with the famerican flag, this was just a most to make black sedwent was earner of their markets.

The Black Liberation Play was once the flag that flav over the kingdom of Chana and Chana was of Africian Kingdom in Neat Africa. It was one of the most converted early states in Africa and had a high level of solitical organization. The mostle being compared by brabrain Act for these whose control is not a superior of the country by Tarcas Garvey as a baser of the Datton Regrouper and Association probably out it has very as a baser of the Datton Regrouper and Association probably out it the very as a baser of the Datton Regrouper and Association probably out it the very as a baser of the Datton Regrouper and Association probably out it the very as a baser of the Datton Regrouper and Association probably out it the very as a baser of the Datton Regrouper and Association probably out it the very as a baser of the Datton Regrouper and Association probably out it is not associated by the Association probably out the Association probably as a superior and the Association probably as a superior as a

The Black Liberation Flag does tell a story of cultural heritage and that was the only purpose and intent of the resolution. The colors of the flag are red, black and green. Red stands for the blood of black pools which was not shed in wain, black for blacks; and green for youth and new ideas. The flag is a symbol of self determination, self of initiality and self frespect for black people.

After the resolution was nessed, 'Is. John Carvane filed an injunction which preweated the placing of the Black Liberation Plag in classrooms and after that, the Comissioner of Education, Nr. Carl Yorburger, ruled on it and problibted placing the Flag in the manner that the resolution itself described applying that it was uncount introduced. It has seen that the property of the place of the contraction of the would not be opposed to the placing of any used specified in a season for educational purposed which was the intent of the resolution. Other seems have some to associate the flag with no called "black racies," with the Confederate flag, with Nasiam and everything also a place that the Confederate of the confederate of

Figally, I'd like to say to those who sight have been upset by the Black Liberation Figg or the moving of black people to exercise self determination in the say that they see fit, it seems that no small vesder that the black meaning would move to American way of life; the "wo called" Exercises way of life, and may I remind you that the American way of life; when you life; when you I remind you that the American way of life; when you I remind you can always endertions. I vould like to say the housing is still the smattent critical that the same that would retlieve some type of sail resurest.

Gustav Hemingburg: The might the Board of Education massed the resolution on the Black Liberation Flag, I was in Denver.

Those people who are concerned with trying to entice businesses to come into Newark, NJ, can report with some accuracy that the nesting of the Black Inheration Flag resolution was a negative factor is snoormaging businesses to come. Recesse it the people of Newark, who are classes to the situation recessed as they did to the people of Newark, who will not not the people of Newark, who will not not not not not not not consider that the new for the new form the new form

The extent of that economic funct is hard to measure, of course. A few people would articulate in writing that our board has decided not to come consist hecause of the flag fearure but I think the concern is more important to me is the hyperray with which the flag resolution was reacted to med fit was hyperria. Yake no matarks shout fit; it was a hyperrical reaction on the metr of the people with corneally function very objective; ratically and thoughtfully shout these things. And the legislature resmooded with a sense of hyperria and many very unfortunate things have been said.

Furope and other countries and fan mail. The point I would like to make is that. the resolution did have deep significance and this is the reason it received wide-spread publicity. But getting down to the reactions that I got from the fan mail, from the calls, from the press and the radio and various organizations, it was all opposed to the Black Liberation Flag flying in public classrooms. No body including myself, objected to a flag of this kind flying in a private meeting shil, someones home or any non-public place. But that was not the issue. The issue was the flag was flying in a public classroom. Now we wil know that the nonulation of this city is composed of many ethnic & racial groups some estimates as high as 50% some as high as 70%. Let's assume there is only 25%; to fly a symbol which is a symbol for one group, you have to fly a symbol for all groups so you get to a point where you would have 25 or 50 or 70 symbols flying in a classroom depending upon how many groups you have represented in a school system. This I think would be kind of ridiculous. Again, getting back to the significance of the flag, it has different significance for different people. I interpret it in one way and, incidentially, many people have agreed with me. I need not montion the so called white organizations that backed me up in my position but I will mention a few black organizations. The Urban Longue of Essex County sent a resolution into the newspaper and received front page publicity. It said the flag had no place in a public classroom. The Newark Human Rights Commission, which is composed of about 15-20 Commissioners most of whom are black and non-white; passed a resolution stating the flag had no place in a public classroom. The State Funan Rights Commission did the same thing. Roy Wilkins who writes a syndicated column for a few newspapers across the country and appears almost daily in the StarrLedger wrote a very, very pointed column on the flag. And he said the flag had no place in a public classroom and went on to say that the Board numbers who passed the resolution pusht to yote their time and attention to more constructive things and forgat about the flag. The New York Times, which is considered a extremely liberal newspaper, wrote an editorial item saying the flag had no place in a public classroom. The New York Daily News, which is considered a conservative newspaper, wrote an editorial on it and said the flag had no place in a public The Star Ledger didn't write a editorial immediately. It waited classroom. about a week before it wrote it's editorial. They wanted to sound out nublic sentiment and finally the editorial of the Star Ledger dame out backing my position on the flag. I received clippings, everything I received seem to back up my position. Now I', willing to admit that most of these mailings came from white people, no doubt about it. But, I think, that when the Urban League comes out with a resolution of the kind it did; the Newark Human Rights Commission; the State Human Rights Commission and Roy Wilkins, I think that has some significance. Now, Mr. Hamm brought out the fact that it's an innocent symbol to motivate black children to learn. I can think of a lot more important ways to motivate black children to learn instead of flying a red, black and green flag in a classroom. But it isn't an innocent symbol. Where it might be an innocent symbol to Mr. Hamm, I do know it fan't an innocent symbol to some radical people who have a lot to say in the city, I know that to them it represents their idea of revolutionary America; their idea for revolutionary radical change. To me it represents a flag which has no place in a public classroom. The only flag that should be in a public classroom is the American fing; because if you permit other flags in the classrooms you must permit all. Now, Mr. Heningburg made a statement that the American flag represents racism

people. This is why at public mostines when the pledge of allegiance is given or the Star Spangled Samer is anuar, those who feel netwated to do as stand and sing and those who do not remain seated. The fast remains the Start Law ordsine that the flag salute and the pledge of allegiance shall be conducted every day the substantial of the start that the substantial standard every day that is beginned you the toocher as a state law. She the designance is not supported by the start of the start Sampled lamner, if he has a conscientions objection, the start Sampled lamner, if he has a consciention objection to the American Elag, he need not participate in the sledge are also abjection with the start Sampled lamner, if he has a consciention objection, the start Sampled lamner, if he has a consciention objection, the start Sampled lamner, if he happen to be a conscient confidence of the start Sampled lamner, if he happen to be a concentration of the start Sampled lamner, if he happen to be a concentration and the communitar flag is flying at a mobilic meeting, you the communitat multi-salute it sail to a more community and the community and the community of the start of concentration would not salute it. Powerer, if on war loting enough and you can be sufficient to the flag, but for notifical objections to the flag to the

to some people, represents oppression to some people, has no meaning to other

Some don't like the system because they claim it's raidst; operessive; it may be it probably gis, so they refuse to enlatte the zerotion flag and mobely can tell them to do so. But again, when you're dealing with children in a public class—has no place in that classerom. Now it's laws most not only referred to the flag ms a symbol but he referred to it as a "introduction flag" and so it is in my refuse. The contraction of the flag is a symbol but he referred to the flag ms a symbol but he referred to the flag ms a symbol but he referred to the flag ms a symbol but he referred to the flag ms a symbol but he referred to the flag ms a symbol but he referred to the flag ms and the

The flac as you know came into being many many years ago in a country in Africa known As Ghana. At that time it was a kingdom and it was the flag of that kingdom. Back in the 1919's and 1920's, Harcus Garvey adopted the flag as a symbol of his movement and his rovement had some cond aspects to it and I thought it had some bad aspects to it, and one of the bad aspects was that because the world normalation is predominantly black and non-white and because of this, there's a wory small minority of white meanle who live in the world and yet the white people control the world economically, politically and socially. This is wrong, and therefore the blacks throughout the world should organize a revolution and take over the world from it's white copressors and control it. This was the man's philosophy. This is one of the bad things that he did. This is what the Black Liberation Plac represented to Marcha Carvey and as time comes down thru the years to the present time, this has been adopted by radical groups, by revoluntionary groups and to them it represents something to rally around. Now does it inanire black children to learn? I don't think so: I can think of many more symbols to inspire black children to learn. I could think of many more mathods to inspire black children to learn. And I think that we're making a serious mistake as a Board of Education member, when we try to indoctrinate black children into believing only things that have a black significance are good for them and only these things can properly educate them and only these things can motivate them. I have a very simply philosophy, I own as much as America as Mr. Hamm does; as any black man in this room does. It's as much your country as it is my country; and I'm prepared to make this country a better place for all of us. I'm not going to tear it down: I'm not going to stop worshipping or respecting the American flag, and nobody can compell me to do so. There's no law in the books that says if John Cervase does not respect the American flag he is going to be charged with crime and sent to jail. I do this voluntarily: to me the American flag is a symbol of our country, a symbol of democracy, which has a lot of faults, which needs improvements, which has racism, which has oppression, which has all these things Mr. Hamm talked about. But with all of it, it's my country and I think that it is the best country in the world. I recall during World War 11, was in the Army. In those days the allies were on one side of the fence and the Germans and Italy were on the other side of the fence. I volunterred to go into the Army and was sent over to Italy and I had to shoot my own people, and I shot them. I defended my country. If I had to make a choice between America and Italy, I'd choose America first and Italy second. I have pride in my Italian background, but you see a lot of people in Newark today and other parts of the country have been misled into believing that they are Africans first, or Communist first or something else first. Then there's America second or no Americans at all and the minute we begin to try to start teaching our black kids in our school system that they are Americans first who should be proud of their African heritage, we're going to start making headway. The minute we keep agitating these kids and try to indoctrinate them, we're destroying the very education we're trying to instill in them.

To wind up what I'm trying to cell you is this, we're oll inversions. We're been expecter. We can not have a soperition of hometon flags. It's immossable and blacks themselves do not went is, socset for a few radicals who are going all ow the state of the state of

If anybody tries to bring the races together in this country or city, they are called "back Poses." If I had to noke a choice brewess these people. Whe Stokely Carmichael, Rep Brown, Larry Jones and the rost of that crowd, I'll take the "back Tomes." I think nows thack people in this country will take the "back Tomes." It is the "back Tomes." It is the "back to the "back Tomes." It's the "back Tomes" who are going to bring blacks & whites in this country together and you had better baliave that.

I just do hope that if you disagree with me, you would respect my right to say what I have said without calling me names and by the same token, I will do the same to you.

Eugene Campbell: I to received calls from across the country when this resolution came out knowing that Marcus Garvey School, formerly Robert Treat School, has the red, black and green flag in several of their classrooms. Ouiet as it has been kept, the flags have been there for quite some time before we received all of thi publicity, and notoriety about the Liberation flag. Now what we're going to debate is if the Liberation flag is going to helm the child to read better or to do arithmetic better, to be a greater schiever. Now we can go on and on trying to find out if the flag can do such things, but I question, "Can the American flag help the child read better, can the pictures of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and a host of others that I have heard in telephone conversations from several people in this city who call my office questioning about the Liberation flag. As an educator, I think the child should experience many things, but I think that anyone who belongs to any specific cultural group should also deal into those areas that are inherited into their particular culture, such as, Mr. Cervase indicated. He is an Italian and you noticed that he began to give you names of different ethnic groups and he considers himself, an Italian first, he doesn't call himself an American-Italian, he calls himself an Italian-American and this goes right down the list with other people too. When we began to find out where people come from and where their allegiances is, it's very evident. To a child in a classroom, I can't see where a flag is detrimental and I do see that the flag is very positive. Just as Mr. Cervase, and I don't mean to be antagonistic about what you were saying Mr. Cerbase, but you very nextly took out certain parts of the philosophy and work of Marcus Garvey and you said the flag represented all of those negative things. But the flag couldn't represent any of those good things that he did as far as you're opinion is concerned. And then you mentioned about the American flag. Yes there is racism in this country, there is oppression in this country, there's this end that, negative things, but the flag does not represent those negative things. The flag represent those good things. Now you're talking out of both sides of your nouth. The flag represents negative things for Marcus Garvey, the red, black and green flag, but the American flag only the good things are represented. This is not fair to the child who has to be subjected to that type of thought.

We did not even go about putting up the flags when this came about because we were sware that certain things were going to happen. But a few flags were ofready there and in one telephone conversation, someone said to remove them. But I want you to understand something very clearly, not only did they tell me to remove the flag but they told me to remove pictures of people. You this person has never visited Marcus Garvey School and to my knowledge, has never visited Robert Trest School. But they were telling me that the pictures that are around the building should be removed because they are negative images to the children. Now let's look at things very realistically. We all know the feelings of a Jew when he sees a picture of Hitler. Now if we were teaching truth in the classrooms, why shouldn't the child react when he sees a picture of Mashingon Jefferson or a picture of other people who were really racist as far as black people are concerned; because they were responsible for enslaving us. They did nothing about it. Now if we are to teach truth and we have a red, black, and green flag which is representative of those students, like 50% or more being black, what's negative about that in commarison to some of these other things we have to teach? We have to now pass some sort of law and order to have to teach black history to students. Why can't board numbers tell teachers we want to teach the truth? Why can't business people began to really out some pressure on publishing companies and say "Let's print a text book, a history text book that tells the truth?" But when someone begans to say something or make a resolution about the Liberation flag, it becomes very negative. Personnally, I don't see why we are here discussing a flag with two board members here and with the reading level of students for the past five years. The reading level for the 3rd, grade has been 2.2 and when we get to the 6th. grade, you can forget about it, The students have not achieved at all as far as the standarized test in reading

in almost five years, no improvement whatsoever and we're here talking about some flag. We have some very important issues that we should be talking about. Mr. Cervase has been a member of the board of education for quite some time and I have yet to hear any anger coming up over students not achieving. We are retrogressing instead of progressing. Mr. Heningburg stated that businesses are thinking about leaving Newark because of a flag. I can see it if businesses are saying we want to leave because the school system can not educate the students to come into the business. What type of mentality is that? The school system is in serious trouble educationally and you can not blame the problems on some flag. The board of education members will sit here and what appers me is, as a berson who works directly in the education system, see our students constantly get ripped off. They gladly accept unusual contracts from teachers. What type of accountability do we have from teachers? Do you realize every other Wednesday when I pass out those checks, no one will say, "Did you do your job?" And as soon as scheone gets on someones backs they will say "Look, take it easy, don't rock the boat. Why doesn't someone bring up some issues like that? The strike is over and we will have another one, comes January, 1973. Why don't some people begin to get together now and say we will have some real publicity about doing something positive for our children. I don't think anyone really cares, rather spend so much time talking about the Black Liberation Flag. I'd like to know what's going to happen about the cafeteria. The wages of the people who work in the cafteria, no one wants to talk about that.

As far as students are concormed, we have a very small flag in one classroom, which was a gift to the scatcher by some stoodents. There's a very large one in the library. Some students has the flag mode for the librarian as a gift for her because they though the library was no correct as far as they very concormed. Then you have other people who survives the survives the property of the property of the survives of the survives

Dave Barrett: The people who have spoken so far, have said pretty much what I had wanted to say. I just want to give you some very general remarks: The very fact that the resolution which was introduced by "r. Pamm, could mass in the Board of Education the way it did, is just another manifestation of a growing consciousness among black people in the city of Newark. It reflects a certain sentiment that has been growing since at least 1965-1966, continuing to menifost itself into other areas. I can recall mymelf back in 1967, there was a group of young men who called themselves "The United Brothers," which is an organization of the "Committee for Unified Newerk." I was a member of that organization. In 1967 we were considered radical, extremist and separatist, because we said that we were going to have a black Mayor by 1979. Not withstanding the different kinds of oppositions that came from some of the groups Mr. Cervase named. Some of the black groups, are benefiting from it right now because of the very fact that we do have a black Mayor in 1970. In 1968, we ran a slate of candidates who were selected by the first black convention at the West Kinney Jr. High School. All three of the candidates, if you can recall, did not win the council seats, but we did manage to mobilize more blacks in the city of Newark then there has ever been around elective politics. Then in 1969, we had a Black & Puerton Rican Convention and some of the people in this goom were opposed to it and some participated and some just never did participate, saying it was an unwhite thing to do.

We salected a ticket heeded by mor 'Mayor' Dismorth A., (Silbenn and efter a long clerication in hum, 1770, we wan "Mayord liket and three council sects; and the war those win opposed to that.

"When the sale is the sale i

In 1971, we talked about having a Mational Black Convention, in 1972, we had the Mational Black Convention. There were those who said black recole didn't need a black convention. There's a Democratic Convention, there's a Republication Convention and the American system has provided us with these things already an you should try to address yourself to these structures which already exist reather than creating alternatives. Contrary to what some of the younger white Americans chose to do, they chose to destroy what already existed, which is already existed, the standard of the sta

There is a group with a P.O. Box is Bloomfield, New Jersey, who are saying that this is a racist thing for black popule to want to have a black Congressman, in sure that by 1974-75, the things which are considered right now as being radical and extrame and extrame and racist, etc., by those who are nopesed to any recrease of the black community. They will find that by 1073-76, that what the black community is talking about now will be considered very midd.

We always believe that there have beensone things and people who are perfect for their time and their contents and certainly what was sufficient for black people in Newark in 1968-1970, cannot continue to be sufficient for 1972.

One of the reasons that organizations come and po is that their usefulness is no longer needed for black people nor for the white needle. A lot of the erouse which Mr. Cervase called "Uncia Tom's" can no longer make their livine off the white communities in black communities because their usefulnessham outlived itself. A black person who serves in the white community at the estense of the community what he has been charged to do by Mis makers. Nower do in the black

We just say generally that the flag issue is really just a small part of the growing sentiment, and consciousness of black possel which is benefitning to the proving sentiment of the proving sentences and the proving sentiment of the proving sentiment of the proving sentiment of the proving sentences are sentiment of the proving sentences and the proving sentences are sentences as the provinces are sentences as the pr

The course can block a resolution, it can block the familementation of the readultion, but because the resolution has been blocked or defended does not consider the property of the control of the control of the control of the for it, as a matter of fact, I think it's always has the contravy effect. The control of the control of the control of the control issues, the support in the black community grown . We have found that a sambler of 'lack' as a property of the control of the c

Question and Answers:

Mr. Logowick stated that only one member of the panel said the flag should be flown for educational purposes, not at all times. He wanted to know the feelings of the other panel members.

Mr. Barrett: He feels that the flag should be flown whenever the macric want it to be flown.

Mr. Campbell: If you really look into Commissioner Marburger's so called decision, in the matter of the flag, the flag could be flown in any classroom

at any time, as long as the teacher can show that they are using it for educational purposes. He feels that no one should be able to prevent a teacher from taking the flag and posting it in their room and tolling thes they can't use it on the flag and the step in the flag and the step.

Mr. Cervame: Mr. Methorger decided that the flag can be used for adocational purposes; but a arithmetic seacher has no reason to have a flag in her classroom during a 3/4 hour pariod teaching arithmetic. Certainly a teacher who is teaching black history has a perfect right widle they are teaching thank history but as soon as the period is over, the flag should come down. If the teacher wants to use it is an educational tool, 1/2 s serfectly airfaint.

Mr. Heningburg: I think any discussion of the time factor about the flag is irrelevant. It would evoke a discussion among people of different perspectives about how long it should be flown.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

Katherine Morton